

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF APPLICATION

Claims 7-26 are canceled in this paper. No claims have been added. Thus, claim 27 remains pending in the present Application.

The indication in the Office Action that claim 27 is allowable is noted with appreciation. As claim 27 is the sole remaining claim in the present Application, Applicant believes the present Application is in condition for allowance.

II. 35 USC § 102 REJECTIONS

Claims 7, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,147,067 to Effertz ("Effertz").

Claims 7, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,648,525 to Henderson ("Henderson").

Claims 7, 8, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 1,736,383 to Waggoner ("Waggoner").

Claims 7, 8, 18, and 19 have been canceled. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 102(b) rejections of claims 7, 18, and 19 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

III. 35 USC § 103 REJECTIONS

Claims 9-12, 20, and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Waggoner in view of U.S. Patent 5,564,568 to Rankin, Sr. ("Rankin").

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Waggoner in view of Rankin and U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0036206 to Bergman *et al.* ("Bergman").

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Waggoner in view of U.S. Patent 5,985,383 to Allen *et al.* ("Allen").

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Waggoner in view of 1,395,485 to Duncan *et al.* ("Duncan").

Claims 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Waggoner in view of Duncan and U.S. Patent 6,510,627 to Liu ("Liu").

Claims 21-23 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Waggoner in view of Rankin, Duncan, Liu, and Allen.

Claims 9-17 and 20-26 have been canceled. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the 103(a) rejections of claims 9-17 be reconsidered and withdrawn.


CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (817) 578-8616 with any questions, comments, or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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